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October 6, 1995

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Satellite DARS - Docket NOCKETFILE COPY ORIGINAL FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Commissioner Chong: Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong Room # 844 Federal Communications Commission 1919 M. Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20554

OCT 2 3 1995

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am the General Manager of two small market radio stations, KRRP-AM and KSBH-FM, licensed to Coushatta, Louisiana, a town of about 2,500 people. For more than 30 years I have made my living as a community broadcaster. I am writing to express my support of the Commission enacting Satellite DARS rules that protect the integrity of local broadcasters.

During the continuing discussion of the possible impact of DARS on local broadcasters, much has been said of the effect of allowing numerous additional signals to penetrate every market, possibly eroding the local audience base of all terrestrial broadcasters. I believe a large number of our listeners would be siphoned off by the more sophisticated sound of a large national service, in the event Satellite DARS operators were allowed to duplicate programming offered by local broadcasters.

Also, I believe that the loss of local broadcasters would harm the public welfare with respect to dissemination of news, weather alerts, and items of interest only to the communities served by individual broadcast stations. These events would be of such insignificance to a broadcaster addressing the whole nation that they would receive virtually no coverage.

I have not heard much discussion of the fate of local businesses, civic organizations and local politicians, should Satellite DARS lead to the demise of significant numbers of local broadcasters. The broadcast stations of this country provide an indispensable service to local businesses by carrying their advertising messages. (next page, please)

KSBH-FM (KSFM) & KRRP-AM Rt. 4 Box 197 Coushatta, LA 71019

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## F.C.C. Commissioner Chong, p. 2

Local charities depend upon us as well to promote their activities. And most local politicians, from mayoral candidates to members of Congress, utilize local radio to promote their campaigns.

In our community, the only local advertising media are the local newspaper and our radio stations. The local cable system offers no opportunities to insert local material. The nearest major market is 45 miles. It is not economical for local merchants and politicians to utilize either TV, radio or newspaper from a big city to try and reach their local customers. And because our local civic groups involve so small a portion of the big city media's audience, they get very little attention from those media.

Commissioner Chong, I believe that local businesses, civic groups, and those seeking local political office would find their abilities to prosper and serve their constituents severely hampered should the nature of local broadcasting be radically changed. We all are aware that local broadcasters provide an essential service to their community with news, information, local sports and other services that would not be available on a nationwide satellite program. Ours is a necessary service to the business community, and that is evidenced by the fact that support from those businesses has provided the funds that have allowed local broadcasters to grow and prosper.

Local radio is a service that depends upon local business support for it's survival. And those businesses depend upon local radio for their own survival. I sincerely hope you will act to support local broadcasters who have demonstrated for over 75 years that they provide a needed service to the citizens, businesses and others in the communities they are licensed to serve.

Thank you for considering my comments on the Satellite DARS issue.

Sincerely,

John Brewer

Station Manager

KRRP-AM & KSBH-FM

## OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER RACHELLE B. CHONG

Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W., Room 844 Washington, D.C. 20554 Telephone: (202) 418-2200

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October 20, 1995

John Brewer Station Manager KRRP/KSBH Radio Rt. 4, P.O. Box 197 Coushatta, LA 71019

RE: Satellite DARS

Dear Mr. Brewer:

Thank you for your letter of October 6, 1995 expressing your views on Satellite DARS. I will certainly take your letter into consideration when I make my final decision on the matter.

Sincerely.

Rachelle B. Chong

Commissioner

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